and trade deficit during the year 1999-2000 is as under:-

	Exports (US$mn)	Export Growth (%)	Imports (US$mn)	Import Growth (%)	Trade deficit ($ mn)
1999-2000*	37538	11.6	46154	10.2	-8616

Source: DGCI & S, Calcutta

* Data for 1999-2000 are provisional and subject to change: growth rates calculated are over the corresponding provisional figures of 1998-99.

(c) and (d) Major items of imports are either necessities or raw materials for exporting sector. As per the available disaggregate provisional data for April-January, 2000, the major items of import, their values and shares are as under:—

US$ Million

S. No.	Import Items	Value	Share (%)
1.	Petroleum, crude & products	8547.07	22.40
2.	Pearls, precious, semi precions Stones	4276.20	11.21
3.	Gold & silver	3636.78	9.53
4.	Machinery except electrical	2222.65	5.83
5.	Electronic goods	2134.26	5.59
6.	Vegetable oils fixed (edible)	1640.45	4.30
7.	Organic chemicals	1323.36	3.47
8.	Inorganic chemicals	1129.96	2.96
9.	Fertilizers manufactured	1004.99	2.63
10.	Coal, coke & briquettes	775.65	2.03

Source: DGCI&S.

Export of Meat

5184. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether meat is exported from our country;

(b) if so, to which countries of the world alongwith quantity and the monetary value, from 1997 to 1999, country-wise; and

(c) what amount of subsidy has been given to meat exporters for the years 1997, 1998 and 1999?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Figures of India's country-wise exports of meat are available in the "Monthly Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India', published by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), Calcutta and are available in the Parliament Library. India's total exports of meat during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are as follows:—

Qty: Tonnes

Value: Rs. crores

	Quantity	Value
1997-98	184440.0	794.36
1998-99	162840.3	771.77
1999-2000* (April-August, 99)	58022.1	252.99

Source. DGCI & S, Calcutta
*Provisional

(c) The following amount of subsidy was provided by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Develpment Authority (APEDA) to exporters of meat during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000:—

	Subsidy (in Rs. lakhs)
1997-98	37.35
1998-99	13.58
1999-2000	39.85

Calculation of Wholesale Price Index

5185. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently there has been a change in the designation of the base year and the basket of commodities for the calculation of the Wholesale Price Index (WPI);